NO. 23.

#### The Buried Mother.

Out by the walls of a Danish town The graves stood cold as the night came

The graves stood cod as the night came down.

The Angelus prayer had long been said.

And the bell tolled out the psalm for the dend;

It swung for a while from the darkening steeple,
"Out of the depths," said priest and people. Through all the close-set town and towers. The doors were shut for the silent hours. But a mother, buried for half a year,
Woke with a crying in her ear.

She rose with the vague sleep still in her head And clad in the shroud that wraps the dead.

She left the cold grave under the walls,
And took the street to her husband's halls,
She felt her long-dead bosom ache,
For her seven chi dren were all awake;
And none had broken them bread that night,
Or peured them drink, or trimmed a light.
And none had laid them pillow or sheet;
The dust of the day was on their feet,
Two strove for an empty cup, and one
Was crying—that was her youngest son.
She washed and kissed them, and hushed
their cries;
While the tears pressed out of her long-dead
cycs.

But their father, who lay on a lower floor, flad heard her steps in the corridor, And he rose and came, and saw her stand With the children ellaging to either hand. She said, "The crying smote my heart, It broke my dreams of death apart. It was loth to leave these seven. I died. But when have I slept when the child has cried?

Take note, ere I pass to my many dead: Your children woke and had no bread. No fire, no lamp: two were at strife; One cried uncomforted. Tell your wife."—Magazine of Art.

#### ANGEL WINGS.

Many years ago, the community of a certain hamlet in the south of France was startled by a crime rare indeed in their quiet, agricultural district. A wealthy farmer was found dead at early morning within a hundred yards of his own house. He had been killed by blows administered by a considerable sum of money which he was known to have received the previous evening for some sheep sold by him in the neighboring market town.

When the awe and excitement crea-

ted by this event had subsided a little. every exertion wasmade by the authorities to ferret out the perpetrator of the crime. A reward was offered for the discovery of the murderer, proclanation of which bounty was made for several successive Sundays at the church door. At last some disclosures were made, implicating a young man named Laroche-a stripling eighteen years of age.

The person who brought the charge against young Laroche was a man of the name of Landry—a stranger in the district, but who had lately been appointed by the lord of the manor as one of the keepers of game preserves. Landry testified that he had seen La-roche cutting a stake from the hedge on the afternoon previous to the mur-der, and that he had reproved him for it, and, taking the stake from him, had stuck it on the bank of the hedge at a particular spot. The stake was the same one that was found lying near the body of the farmer. Landry could swear to it, because after taking it from Laroche, he had nicked it in a

peculiar way with his pen-knife. Now, it so happened that the murdered farmer had many and influential friends, while Laroche had but few. Therefore Laroche was convicted of the murder, and sentenced to be hung on a certain day, and at a certain place, until which time he was placed for safe keeping in the jail of the disbuilding, the lower part of which was

The prison consisted of a single apartment, lighted by a small window. at the height of about sixteen feet from the floor. The side of the building from which the window looked, ran sheer down to the water of a dark, deep river, which creeps lazily by the mill, but quickened the pace a little lower down, until it gradually became a rushing torrent, leaping wildly on to its fall over a perpendicular ledge of rocks. Bodies carried over the fall were said to never have been recovered; and it was a fixed notion among the country people that there was a suctional force below by which everything falling into it was carried down into the unexplored abysses of the

It was the day before that fixed for the execution of young Laroche, and the priest of the parish, Father Allard by name, had been left alone with the prisoner, in order to prepare him, by the consolation of religion, for his approaching doom. To his words of com-fort Laroche listened with humility and silence, until the good Father be gan to dilate upon his chances of forcrime committed by him. Then prisoner electrified him by declaring his perfect innocence of that crime—a position which he meant to maintain, he said, with his latest breath.

To be brief, the youth of the prisoner, his earnest asseverations of innocence, and a wavering doubt of his guilt, which had all along troubled Father Allard's mind, so wrought upon that worthy man that he at last consented to commit himself to a plan for giving the prisoner a chance of escape, if not from death, at least from the ignoniny of dying by the hand of the

accursed hangman. "If I die by the gallows, most reverend Father," said the young man, "a great sorrow will some day fall upon all concerned in my death. The real murderer is sure to be discovered, sooner or later; and the just retribution of Heaven will pursue my murderers. Aid me to escape rather than risk a great stain upon your conscience. Stand upon this chair, which I place upon the table, thus; and then, by mounting upon your shoulders, I can weach the window and drop from it."

"But 'he river below!" "I can swim like an otter, and, at any rate, it is better to be drowned than hanged."

Convinced of the young man's inno-cence, Father Allard consented to aid him in his escape. A moment sufficed to carry the plan into execution. The prisoner gained the window and disap-

Parading in a straggling way outside the building went one of the minor of-ficers of justice—a solid peasant who

the min. his sight nearly left him, as he afterwards stated, when he saw a man drop frow the jail window, strike on to a platform that protruded from a doorway in the second story, and, rebounding from that, fall into the water with a heavy plunge, reappearing at intervals, until he was carried away into the rapids below.

The alarm was at once given. Village officials rushed to the prison-room where they found Father Allard alone, seated on the chair, pale as if just re-covering from the sight of some super-natural vision. To the question put to him he replied that, as he was ad-ministering the consolutions of his holy office to the prisoner, a voice sounded through the apartment, accompanied by the shadow of a mighty pair of wings, on which the prisoner mounted to the ceiling of the apartment and was uo more seen by him. The voice, he added, proclaimed the prisoner's innocence, the real circumstances of the

murder would soon be made manifest.
It was a miracle; and the good country prople, ever ready to accept that form of interposition, were easily per-suaded to do so on the present occa-

Meantime, Laroche, when he leaped from the window, had forgotten all about the platform. As he fell upon it he displaced a sack of grain, which splashed into the dark waters of the river, appearing to the eyes of the be-wildered sentry to be the body of the man who had dropped from the prison window. Laroche lay upon the nar-row platform, stunned by the heavy

Spride, the miller's daughter, saw him fall. There was no one else in t e by blows administered by a heavy stake, which lay near the body covered with the blood; and his pockets had been rifled of their contents, including been rifled of their contents, including to him such restoratives as her young experience suggested, threw some loose sacks over him and told him to lie still That night Spride and her lover-

Liroche and she had been lovers for about six hours only-made their way to where a boat lay moored below the falls; and embarking in it, were soon carried far beyond pursuit. It was sup-posed by the frightened villagers that Spride must have been carried from the platform when the body from the window above had been seen to strike upon it; and as the whir!pool below the torrent had never been known to give up its dead, but little search was made for her, and her friends resigned themselves to mourning for her awful fate. Less than six months after this Landry was tried for the murder of a brother keeper and was convicted and hanged accordingly. Previous to his conviction, however, he made a clean breast of it to Father Allard, confessing that he had murdered the farmer for his money, killing him with the stake cut from the hedge by young Laroche, which, as he stated singular-

of committing the crime.
Two years clapsed, and Father Allard had been promoted to a parish at a distance of some fifty miles from the one which he had been paster of for so

ly enough, suggested to him the idea

many years.

Shortly after his arrival there his duties led him to take a journey on horseback some miles into the interior of the parish of which he had charge. Part of the road travelled by him wound through a swampy forest re-gion; and, after a ride of several miles, poor people increases, and marriage, a sluggish stream that had formerly been spanned by a bridge, of which nothing but the abutments remained, however. The priest turned his horse's head and rode along the bank of the river, hoping to find another bridge, or at least a ford, by which he could cross to the further side; nor had he gone far when he discovered, by boot marks, a place where cattle seemed to be in the habit of wading through or coming to drink.

The water appeared to be shallow, so he urged his unwilling horse into it, and had got about half way across, when the animal began to plunge and struggle violently, sinking at the same time, as if drawn down by some invisible power. Aware now that he had fallen into one of those quick-sands which are not uncommon in that part of France, the good father knew that to throw himself from his horse would be certain death, as the water was not deep enough to swim in, and the hunhim. He held upon his horse, there-fore, and shouted for help.

The water was gaining upon him, as the terrified horse sank deeper and deeper in the treacherous stream. Up, up it came, until it reached his saddle flaps, and then his knees; and he had given himself up as lost, when distant shouts came in response to his, which

were going feebler with each repetition. And now a man bursts his way through the brushwood on the riverbank, and, laying his axe upon a tall, slender young tree, cuts it down with four or five rapid strokes, leaning it so that it falls down upon the water, its opmost boughs just brushing the sinking horseman in its fall. Grasping the boughs with all his remaining strength, the priest was drawn to the bank by the woodsman, fainting and senseless, however, and with hardly a visible

When Father Allard recovered consciousness he found himself in a small but comfortable room. Seeing him open his eyes, a buxom young woman who was bathing his temples uttered an exclamation of joy, calling him by name; and now, as his dizzy senses brightened, what was his surprise to find his attendant the lost Spride. Explanation ensued, and all was made clear as day without recourse to marvel or miracle,
Presently Laroche, who had been en-

gaged, with the assistance of some of the neighbors, in extricating the priest's horse, came in, and the scene was an affecting one between the two, each of whom had been thus wonderfully appointed by Providence to preserve the

"My conscience is clear" now," said Father Allard. "Heaven has surely pardoned the little fletion framed by

"But hold, reverend Father," cried ficers of justice—a solid peasant who had been placed there by way of sentry, and who at this moment happened to be looking towards the river wall of wings, and so I was, and this is the an-

ge, that saved me!" And he, laughing, threw his arms around the pretty wife and hugged her to his side.

Poetical justice might now have been well satisfied, but I have a few words further to add upon the subject.

Laroche, who was now employed as forester upon an estate, was enabled by the assistance of Father Allard to return to his native village, where, not long after, he obtained an appointment to the very keepership formerly held by the assassin Landry.

#### Decrease in Marriages.

A comparative record of marriages in the State of Ohio has been compiled, which shows a remarkable decrease in the number during late years in pro-portion to the population. During the year preceding the War there were over 23,000 marriages out of a population of about 2,340,000. The War reduced this number to an average of about 19,500, and the return of peace ran up the number to 30,479. This large increase denoted that there were a good many faithful girls who waited a good many faithful girls who wated patiently for the young men to whom they had plighted their troth. After that the average number of marriages was about 26,000 a year for a number of years; but following the panic of 1873 there was a drop to 23,489. The revival of business in 1882 was marked by another increase to 30,600, but the by another increase to 30,600, but the succeeding depression of 1884 again re-

duced the number to 28,720.

While these statistics indicate pretty clearly that good times promote marriages and hard times depress the matrimonial as well as other markets, it is still more significant to note that the number of marriages in proportion to the population is very much smaller than formerly. The annual average before the War was about one marriage to 100 inhabitants; the same proportion now would give 32,500 marriages per annum, whereas the average for the last five years has been only a little more than 29,000. Fewer births are recorded than twenty-five years ago, though the married population is 25 per cent larger.
These marriage statistics of Ohio may

be accepted as denoting an appreciable decline in the family life of this country. Ohio occupies a middle ground be-tween the thickly settled Eastern States and the newer States and Territories; it is one of the most prosperous States in the Union, and there is certainly as much encouragement for domesticity there as in any other pertion of the country. It may be fairly assumed, therefore, that it marriages and births are decreasing in Onio in proportion to the population the same is true of other States and even to a greater extent in some of them. The tendency is certainly to be deplored. Hard times will account for a falling-off in the number of marriages in certain years, but will not explain the decrease in the general average. The drift of modern civilization in the crowded communities is toward celibacy. The influences are numerous. Among the classes who are in comfortable circumstances and ought to maintain modest, happy homes there is a desire for display and an indulgence in extravagance which warn young men against the responsibilities of a family. Among the wealthy classes a large proportion of the young men acquire habits which divert their attention from marriage. As our cities with its attendant expenses is a formidable affair. Many other conditions could be named which are deterrent in their influence on marriages. The anti-marriage tendency is especially to be deplored because itimpiles increased immorality. It can only be counteracted by the cultivation of more moderate modes of family life and the repression, so far as possible of social vices. - Chicago Tribune.

## The Millennium in Norway.

A North European correspondent of the Springfield Republican a good deal more than insinuates that the millennium has not only arrived at Norway but that it is a greater ethical success than was anticipated. He conveys this most interesting and most cheering piece of intelligence,

Which Kings and prophets waited for, But died without the sight, in a manner as unique as it is satisfacgry sand at the bottom was gaping for driving along one day [through Nor-him. He held upon his horse, there-way] we saw two umbrellas hanging on the branch of a tree. Some prople, not earing to be encumbered with them, had left them there till they should pass that way again. Although

it was raining, no one thought of louching them. Obviously no commentary can add to the force of this simple, unadorned statement. The news from Norway will come home to the average man with the irresistible power of a steam pile-driver. Norway may well feel that she has fulfilled the choicest sort of a manifest destiny, and that she has nothing more to live for except the enjoyment of her triumph's crown of triumph and the envy of her sister nations. In order to realize how far behind Norway is this metropolis of the New World, let any one of our readers who is interested in the progress of the race hang a nice silk um-brella for temporary safe keeping on one of the trees of Madison Square or Central Park. A good, serviceable, stylish silk umbrella can be purchased for from \$5 to \$10, and the one selected for this experiment should be hung -not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith-on a limb within easy reach of passers by .- New

"Some of these country landlords make me tired," said a drummer. "They don't know how to keep hotel, but they think they do, and the way some of them bluster about and make themselves think they are playing thunder is quite laughable. One day last week I was in a hotel at Peoria eating dinner. I had just tackled a place of a pule pic using war feet. piece of apple pie, using my fork, of course, when the landlord happened to come in. Imagine my surprise upon hearing him growl out to the waiter; "Why in the devil don't you give the gentleman a kuife? You give the gentleman a kuife? don't expect a man to eat ple w fork. do you?" - Chicago Herald.

#### OLD TIMES RECALLED. Member of Fillmore's Cabinet Talks

The last surviving member of Mill-The last surviving member of Millard Fillmore's cabinot is Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, of Staunton, Va. He is 78 years of age, and has a lively recollection of the men of those days. A reporter for the New York Mail and Express met him the other day at the Fifth Avenue hotel, when he was in attendance at the meeting of the trus-

Fifth Avenue hotel, when he was in attendance at the meeting of the trustees of the Peabody fund, of whom he is one. He is very tall and thin, is stooped by age, and has a small, clean-shaven face and bright eyes.

"Recollect those times?" he said.
"They can never fade from my memory while I live. I was secretary of the ry while I live. I was secretary of the interior from 1850 to 1853. I went in-

interior from 1850 to 1853. I went into the cabinet soon after Mr. Fillmore became president. My colleagues were Daniel Webster, secretary of state—he died in September, 1852, and was succeeded by Edward Everett—Thomas Corwin, secretary of the treasury; Charles M. Conrad, secretary of war; Gov. William A. Graham, navy; John J. Crittenden, attorney general, and Nathan K. Hale, of Buffalo, postmaster general. Mr. Graham was nominated for vice presidency with Scott and resigned. John P. Kennedy, of Maryland, then went on the ticket in his place. Of all these men, I alone am place. Of all these men, I alone am left. Mr. Conrad was the last to die,

some five years ago."
"How do our statesmen of to-day compare with those of your time?" "There are no men now to rank with Clay. Webster, and Calhoun. Clay was the greatest practical statesman, Webster the grandest debater and orator, and Calhoun the most profound political philosopher. Mr. Clay had a personal elequence that enabled him to control pearly everyone who came up control nearly everyone who came un-der his influence. Mr. Fillmore was a very able man and had a mind perfectly balanced. I don't think that public opinion has done justice to his great ability. He was a statesman of vast resources, and always had sufficient power to meet exigencies of whatever nature. I knew him well in congress in 1842 and often heard it remarked that he was born for the leadership of

the house.
"As vice president he seemed to have every quality to control and dignify the position. He was a model presi-dent. He brought with him to the cabinet meetings a more thorough knowledge of the topics and questions knowledge of the topics and questions to be discussed than was possessed by any member. With it all he was the most considerate and affable man it has ever been my good fortune to know. If there was a purer man or more unselfish patriot I have yet to learn his name. Daniel Webster was not only one of the grandest orators and debaters, but socially he was most captivating. His wit was superb, his and debaters, but socially he was most captivating. His wit was superb, his words of wisdom and his flow of spirits perennial. At his own house he was a most delightful host, and none could exceed his hospitality. His very presence gave life to every convivial party. He often dined with me and I with him. So I knew him thoroughly in his private as well as his public life. I stood by his side when he laid the corner-stone of the capitol extension at Washington in 1852 or 1853, I forget which year. He may a grand speech on that occasion." "Have things changed much since then?"

"Well, we never heard so muc fraud and corrupt motives attributed to men in high position as now. The accrbity that prevails now in the political parties did not exist then to such a great degree. As to how the govrnment affairs are conducted now in Washington I can not judge. I have not been there to remain any length of time for thirty years. But I could write many volumes about the men and the events of the old whig days."

## New Houses on Old Sites.

There are, no coubt, many persons now living in Rome who have beneath them the residence of some gentleman of the Middle Ages, under which, perhaps, is the home of a Roman family of the time of the Cæsars; and this may have been built upon the foundations of another Roman house, which was considered a good place to live in some five or six hundred years before. It must be a very satisfactory thing. when one is going to build a house, to find beneath the ground some good substantial walls which will make excellent foundations. It very often happens that these remains of ancient buildings are built of larger stones, and are firmer and more solid than the houses which are erected upon them. There is another side, however, to this matter, and the remains of old buildings are frequently very much in the way of those who wish to erect new houses, for it does not always occur that the ancient walls are in the right places, or of a suitable kind, to serve as foundations for the modern build-Then they have to be dug up and taken out, which is a great labor There is a handsome American church in Rome. When this was built, the work was made very expensive by the difficulty of getting rid of portions of walls, arches, rooms, and vaults which these Romans had left behind them, never thinking that in the course of ages there might be such people as Americans who would wish to build a church here.—Frank R. Slockton, in EL Nicholas for November.

San Francisco continues one of the healthiest cities in the world, with an annual death rate of 19.58 per thousand, which is lower than the death rate in thirteen foreign cities and eleven American cities selected for comparison—that is to say, of foreign cities, London, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, Leeds, Hull, Stockholm, Buenos Ayres, Dublin, Belfast, Berlin, Munich, and Hamburgh; and of American cities, New York, Beston, Pittsburgh, Washington, St. Louis, New Orleans, Charleston, Baltimore, Savannah, and Richmond.

A man iu New York who had been the victim of a card swindler, went into court and described from memory thirty separate marks that had been put on as many cards by the thumb nail of the sharper, each of which iden-tified its particular card.

The State census of Wisconsin has been taken and the total population is shown to be 1,563,930, a gain over 1880 of 21 per cent. The largest gains are in the northern half of the State, where there have been large openings of comparatively new country, due in great measure to lumber interests.

Co-operative associations, or union stores, for the sale of groceries or dry goods, are as popular in Massachusetts goods, are as popular in Massachusetts manufacturing towns as building asso-ciations are in Philadelphia. Some communities of 6,000 inhabitants sup-port two or three. The union store at Danvers, a minor shoemaking town, has just declared its fifth annual dividend of \$35 on every \$50 share.

According to data collected by Mr R. W. Best, of the Department of Agriculture, there are in the United States 285,000,000 acres of improved land, 445,000,000 acres of forest, and 780, 000,000 acres of unimproved and waste untimbered land. Incidentally it is found that forests are disappearing at the rate of 25,000,000 acres each year. The forest product during the census year was 18,000,000,000 feet board measure. Last year it was 28,000,000, 000 feet.

The earliest recorded protected English invention is said to be the making of the Philosopher's Stone: "That in the time of Edward III. some alchempher's Stone might be made; that the King granted a commission to two fri-King granted a commission to two friars and two aldermen to inquire if it were feasible, who certified that it was, and that the King granted to the two aldermen a patent privilege that they and their assigns should have the sole making of the Philosopher's Stone."

An important series of experiments has long been in progress at Middlesborough, England, with the view of utilizing oil waste from chemical works, instead of coal, as fuel for steamers. It is claimed that the new invention will revolutionize the oceancarrying trade. Several steamers ply-ing between English and Mediterranear orts have made round trips by the use of the new fuel exclusively, and the en-gineers report excellent results. The oil tanks occupy but little room and the fuel costs only half as much as

More than three hundred years ago an English historian gave the following description of a saw-mill: 'The saw-mill is driven with an upright wheel, and the water that maketh it go is gathered whole into a narrow trough, which delivereth the same water to the wheel. This wheel has a piece of tim-ber put to the axle-tree end, like the handle of a broch, and fasted to the end of a saw, which being turned by the force of the water hoisteth up and down the saw, that it continually eat eith in, and the handle of the saw is kept in a rigall of wood from swerving. Also the timber lieth, as it were, upon a ladder, which is brought by little to the saw with another vice."

Three hundred pages of statistics in the last report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics are taken up with a historical review of wages and prices from 1752 to 1860. Taking the history broadly we find that wages have risen far more rapidly than the price of commodities has advanced. In thirty years before the war wages advanced 62.3 per cent. in twenty leading occupations, while commodities ing occupations, while commodities rose but 12 per cent. in price. Since 1860 the rise in wages has been 24.4 per cent.; in commodities, 14.5 per cent. Or, since 1830 there has been a rise of 89.4 per cent. in wages, and an advance of 28 per cent. in the price of commodities. The same amount of human toil to-day reaps a larger reward in necessities and comforts than at any previous era in our history. Man grows more valuable and things less valuable with every decade. The general tendency is to the equalization of condition, as Mr. Carey asserted in the face of the pessimistical teaching of the English economists nearly half a century ago.—The American.

## A Strange Legal Custom.

There are some peculiar customs in connection with the administration of the courts of the District of Columbia, one which strikes the ordinary observer as the most peculiar is that which requires a winning party to a civil suit to pay for the tobacco that the jury which tried the case is supposed to have used during the hearing of the case. Now, it happens sometimes, that not one of the jurors uses tobacco in any form, and yet the pound of tobacco or its equivalent has to be paid the foreman of the jury the instant a verdict has been given. As litigants or their attorneys are not in the habit of particles to a supposed to have used during the hearing of the case. Now, it happens sometimes, that not one of the jurors uses tobacco in any form, and yet the pound of tobacco or its equivalent has to be paid the foreman of the jury the instant a verdict has been given. As litigants or their attorneys are not in the habit of particles to a supposed to have used during the hearing of the case. Now, it happens sometimes, that not one of the jurors uses tobacco in any form, and yet the pound of tobacco or its equivalent has to be paid the foreman of the jury the instant a verdict has been given. As litigants or their attorneys are not in the habit of particles to a supposed to have used during the hearing of the case. Now, it happens sometimes, that not one of the jurors uses tobacco in any form, and yet the pound of tobacco and Snuff, Diamond Dyes, and other articles too numerous to mention, at the NEW DRUG STORE.

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Where They Dunit Speak. They were engaged to be married and called each other by their first names. Tom and Fanny, and he was telling her how he had always liked the name of Fanny, and how it sounded like music in his ear. "I like the name so well," he added, as a sort of clincher to the argument, "that when sister Clara asked me to name her pet terrier I at once called it Fanny, after terrier I at once called it Fanny, after you, dearest." "I don't think that was very nice," said the fair girl, was very nice." said the fair girl, edging away from him; "how would you like to have a dog named after you?" "Why, that's nothing!" said Tom, airily; "half the cats in the country are named after me." They ton't speak now.

No one will question the affirmation of the postulate, that speech is one of the chief and most valuable of the talents possessed by men, and that they are held responsible to God and man for its wise and beneficent use

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PRINTING MACHINE WORKS,

CINCINNATI, O. 201 Vine Street.

The type used on this paper was cast by the